



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

HUDSON-RARITAN ESTUARY LOWER PASSAIC RIVER, NJ

Environmental Restoration

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The Passaic River Basin drains an area of 935 square miles, of which 787 are in New Jersey and 148 are in New York. Seven major tributaries bring water into the main stem of the Passaic River. Local communities throughout the Passaic River Basin request a program of improvements that would restore the Passaic River. The Passaic River, including adjacent river shorelines, has been subject to repeated degradation as a result of historic and ongoing industrial and commercial activities, along with the associated impacts of urban development.

The lower portion of the basin is highly urbanized with significant development in its natural floodplains. The Corps of Engineers has completed several flood control projects in the basin. The Passaic River Basin has experienced considerable development, particularly in the lower portion, resulting in significant losses of floodplains, fish spawning habitat, benthic habitat, wetlands, waterfowl nesting areas, and other valuable fish and aquatic and terrestrial habitat areas. In addition, the natural hydrologic regime of the basin has been altered by the construction of numerous flood control structures within the basin.

AUTHORIZATION: House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Resolution dated 15 April 1999, Docket Number 2596

STATUS: The District initiated the Reconnaissance Phase in January 2000 and submitted its Section 905(b) WRDA '86 Analysis fact sheet to HQ, USACE for policy review and approval in June 2000. HQ approved the fact sheet in July 2000. The 905(b) fact sheet recommended a separate feasibility study for the tidal influence of the Lower Passaic River (below the Dundee Dam). The District has completed a Project Management Plan (PMP) for the feasibility study. This PMP outlines all the tasks and costs necessary to complete a feasibility report. The PMP developed is in coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency, which is evaluating a Superfund site in the study area. The District executed the Feasibility Cost-Sharing Agreement in the third quarter of FY 2003. The potential non-Federal partner is the New Jersey Department of Transportation - Office of Maritime Resources.

PROJECT COST:

Estimated Feasibility Federal Cost	\$ 5,000,000
Estimated Feasibility Non-Federal Cost	<u>\$ 5,000,000</u>
Total	\$10,000,000

CONTACT: Ron Brattain, Project Planner, mail to: ronald.v.brattain@usace.army.mil, (212) 264-5315

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District

26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278

<http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/>

Congressional Interest:

New Jersey	
District	Senator/Representative
NJ	Honorable Jon Corzine
NJ	Honorable Frank Lautenberg
NJ-08	Honorable William J. Pascrell, Jr.
NJ-09	Honorable Steven R. Rothman
NJ-11	Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
NJ-13	Honorable Robert Menendez